United Nations A/C.4/72/L.1

General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Organization of work

Note by the Chair

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for consideration are listed in document A/C.4/72/1. Background information on those items, including references to related documentation, is set out in the annotated preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-second session (A/72/100).[1]

2. The General Assembly, in rule 99, paragraph (b), of its rules of procedure, calls upon each Main Committee to adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated for the consideration of each item.

3. The General Assembly decided that the seventy-second session should recess on Monday, 11 December 2017, and that, inter alia, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) should complete its work by Friday, 10 November 2017 (see A/72/250, paras. 21 and 22).

4. To that end, the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) may wish to consider adopting as a provisional guideline the approximate dates set out below for the consideration of the items on its agenda with the understanding that they may be revised periodically, as appropriate. The Committee will also consider certain items on its agenda jointly in order to ensure the full and efficient utilization of the conference facilities allocated to it. As indicated below, the conference services have allocated 28 meetings to the Committee and have urged the Committee to make every effort to complete its work within the time allotted. Should the Committee wish to change the dates on which it considers items, it would still have to work within the dates and times indicated below.

[1] For the final list of agenda items adopted by the General Assembly, see A/72/251.

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Date/time	*Programme*
Week of 25-29 September	
Thursday, 28 September	
10 a.m.	Organization of work
	Approval of programme of work
	Approval of time limits for statements
	Establishment of the Working Group of the Whole on outer space
	Consideration of aide-memoire containing requests to petition on Non-Self-Governing Territories
Week of 2-6 October	
Monday, 2 October	
3 p.m.	Introductory statements and joint general debate on decolonization items:
	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations (item 58)
	Economic and other activities that affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 59)
	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 60)
	Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 61)
	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 62)
	Approval of requests to petition on Non-Self-Governing Territories
6 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers on decolonization items
	Deadline for submission of proposals on decolonization items
Tuesday, 3 October	
3 p.m.	Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):
	Statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories as well as petitions on Non-Self-Governing Territories approved to be heard by the Committee
Wednesday, 4 October	
3 p.m.	Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):
	Statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories as well as petitions on Non-Self-Governing Territories approved to be heard by the Committee

Date/time	*Programme*
Thursday, 5 October	
3 p.m.	Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):
	Statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories as well as petitions on Non-Self-Governing Territories approved to be heard by the Committee
Friday, 6 October	
3 p.m.	Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):
	Statements by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories as well as petitions on Non-Self-Governing Territories approved to be heard by the Committee
Week of 9-13 October	
Monday, 9 October	
10 a.m.	Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):
	Joint general debate on decolonization items (*continued*)
Tuesday, 10 October	
10 a.m.	Consideration of decolonization items (*continued*):
	Joint general debate on decolonization items (*concluded*)
	Action on proposals submitted under decolonization items
Wednesday, 11 October	
10 a.m.	Introductory statement and general debate on:
	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 52)
	Working Group of the Whole on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
Thursday, 12 October	
10 a.m.	**International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 52)**
	Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability
Friday, 13 October	
10 a.m.	**International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 52)**
	General debate (*continued*)
	Working Group of the Whole on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (*continued*)

Date/time	*Programme*
Week of 16-20 October	
Tuesday, 17 October	
3 p.m.	**International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 52)**
	General debate (*concluded*)
	Working Group of the Whole on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (*concluded*)
	Action on proposals
Wednesday, 18 October	
3 p.m.	Introductory statement, interactive dialogue and general debate on:
	Questions relating to information (item 57)
Thursday, 19 October	
10 a.m.	**Questions relating to information (item 57)**
	General debate (*continued*)
1 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers on item 57
3 p.m.	**Questions relating to information (item 57)**
	General debate (*concluded*)
	Action on proposals
Week of 23-27 October	
Wednesday, 25 October	
10 a.m.	Introductory statement, interactive dialogue and general debate on:
	Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 55)
1 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers on item 55
Thursday, 26 October	
10 a.m.	**Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 55)**
	General debate (*continued*)
Friday, 27 October	
10 a.m.	**Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 55)**
	General debate (*continued*)

Date/time	*Programme*
Week of 30 October-3 November	
Monday, 30 October	
3 p.m.	**Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 55)**
	General debate (*concluded*)
Tuesday, 31 October	
3 p.m.	Introductory statements, interactive dialogue, general debate and action on proposal on:
	Comprehensive review of special political missions (item 56)
Wednesday, 1 November	
3 p.m.	Introductory statements, interactive dialogue, general debate and action on proposal on:
	Assistance in mine action (item 50)
Thursday, 2 November	
3 p.m.	Introductory statements, general debate and action on proposal on:
	Effects of atomic radiation (item 51)
Friday, 3 November	
3 p.m.	Introductory statement, question-and-answer period and general debate on:
	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 53)
6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of proposals on items 53 and 54
	Deadline for submission of proposals on all outstanding items
Week of 6-10 November	
Monday, 6 November	
10 a.m.	**United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 53)**
	General debate (*concluded*)
Tuesday, 7 November	
10 a.m.	Introductory statement, question-and-answer period and general debate on:
	Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 54)

Date/time	*Programme*
Wednesday, 8 November	
10 a.m.	**Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 54)**
	General debate (*continued*)
Thursday, 9 November	
10 a.m.	**Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 54)**
	General debate (*concluded*)
Friday, 10 November	
10 a.m.	**United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 53)**
	Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 54)
	Introduction of and action on proposals
	Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (item 122)
	Proposed programme of work and timetable for the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the seventy-third session of the General Assembly and consideration of working methods
	Programme planning (item 137)
	Action on proposals on all outstanding agenda items
	Conclusion of the work of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the main part of the session

5. In the preparation of the timetable above, the Chair was guided by the following considerations:

(a) In accordance with established procedures and practices and bearing in mind the availability of documentation, the Committee may wish to hold one general debate covering agenda items 58 to 62 and individual debates on agenda items 50 to 57, 122 and 137, on the understanding that draft resolutions and/or decisions will be considered separately;

(b) Representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories and petitioners will be heard as early as possible during the Committee's consideration of the related items, and the Chair suggests that the Committee devote its meetings from Tuesday to Friday, 3 to 6 October, to the hearing of petitioners;

(c) Item 122, Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, is allocated to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programme of work;

(d) Item 137, Programme planning, is allocated to all the Main Committees and the plenary of the General Assembly to enhance the discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports. If the Assembly allocates any report submitted under this item to the Fourth Committee, the Committee shall revert to this item.

6. Subject to the provisional programme of work above being acceptable to the Committee and in order to facilitate its work, the Chair wishes to suggest that the list of speakers in the general debate covering the following agenda items be closed as follows:

Items 58 to 62: Monday, 2 October, at 6 p.m.

Item 57: Thursday, 19 October, at 1 p.m.

Item 55: Wednesday, 25 October, at 1 p.m.

The Committee will take decisions on the closure of the list of speakers relating to the general debates on the remaining items at the appropriate time.

7. The Chair also wishes to draw the attention of members of the Committee to the decisions of the General Assembly on the organization of its work contained in document A/72/250, sections II.B to III.

8. Members are also requested to bear in mind the decision of the General Assembly that morning and afternoon meetings should start promptly at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., respectively, both for plenary meetings and for meetings of the Main Committees during the seventy-second session. The attention of the members is also drawn to the decision of the Assembly to waive, at its seventy-second session, the quorum required, under rule 108 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, for the Chair to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed (see A/72/250, para. 27).

9. In view of the limited number of meetings available to the Committee, it is suggested that the time limit for statements be set at 10 minutes, with the exception of statements made by the spokespersons of groups of delegations, which would be extended to 15 minutes. In this connection, the Chair will set the time limit for the petitioners as it is deemed necessary.

10. The list of documents submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) is contained in document A/C.4/72/INF/1, which will be updated as necessary.

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Seventy-second session

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Agenda item 52

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Canada:* draft resolution

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 65/97 of 10 December 2010, 65/271 of 7 April 2011, 66/71 of 9 December 2011, 67/113 of 18 December 2012, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 68/74 and 68/75 of 11 December 2013, 69/85 of 5 December 2014, 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 70/82 of 9 December 2015, 70/230 of 23 December 2015 and 71/90 of 6 December 2016,

Emphasizing the significant progress in the development of space science and technology and their applications that has enabled humans to explore the universe, and the extraordinary achievements made in space exploration efforts, including deepening the understanding of the planetary system and the Sun and the Earth itself, in the use of space science and technology for the benefit of all humankind and in the development of the international legal regime governing space activities,

Recognizing, in that regard, the unique platform at the global level for international cooperation in space activities represented by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee and assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of all humankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all humankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of international law, including the relevant norms of international space law and

* In its capacity as Chair of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

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their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[1]

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Deeply concerned about the fragility of the space environment and the challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in particular the impact of space debris, which is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in space,

Convinced that space science and technology and their applications, including satellite communications, Earth observation systems and satellite navigation technologies, provide indispensable tools for viable long-term solutions for sustainable development and can contribute more effectively to efforts to promote the development of all countries and regions of the world, and stressing in that regard the need to harness the benefits of space technology towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2]

Seriously concerned about the devastating impact of disasters,[3] and desirous of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services and geospatial information for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

Firmly convinced that the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas such as tele-health, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection, natural resources management and ocean and climate monitoring contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

Deeply concerned about the devastating effects of infectious diseases, including Ebola virus disease, to the detriment of human life, society and development, and urging the international community to enhance the role of space-based solutions, in particular tele-epidemiology, in monitoring, preparedness and response activities,

Recalling the fact that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, recognized

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[2] Resolution 70/1.

[3] The term "disasters" refers to natural or technological disasters.

the important role that space science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,[4]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixtieth session,[5]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixtieth session;[5]

2. *Agrees* that the Committee, at its sixty-first session, should consider the substantive items recommended at its sixtieth session,[6] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

3. *Notes* that, at its fifty-sixth session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,[7] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/90;

4. *Agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-seventh session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,[8] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

5. *Urges* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[9] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their national law, as well as incorporating them into their national legislation;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* that the space law curriculum developed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat and published in all official languages of the United Nations could encourage further studies within States in cooperation with relevant entities in support of capacity-building efforts in space law and policy;

7. *Welcomes* the report of the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan,[10] as finalized at the fifty-sixth session of the Legal Subcommittee, and notes that the report provides an important source of information and useful guidance for further joint undertakings by spacefaring nations and emerging space nations, as appropriate;

8. *Notes* that, at its fifty-fourth session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,[11] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/90;

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[4] Resolution 66/288, annex, para. 274.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/72/20).

[6] Ibid., para. 349.

[7] Ibid., chap. II.C; see also A/AC.105/1122.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/72/20), paras. 244-246.

[9] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 672, No. 9574); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 961, No. 13810); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1023, No. 15020); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1363, No. 23002).

[10] A/AC.105/C.2/112.

[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/72/20), chap. II.B; see also A/AC.105/1138.

9. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fifty-fifth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,[12] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of information-sharing in discovering, monitoring and physically characterizing potentially hazardous near-Earth objects to ensure that all countries, in particular developing countries with limited capacity for predicting and mitigating a near-Earth object impact, are aware of potential threats, emphasizes the need for capacity-building for effective emergency response and disaster management in the event of a near-Earth object impact, and notes with satisfaction the work carried out by the International Asteroid Warning Network and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group to strengthen international cooperation to mitigate the potential threat posed by near-Earth objects, with the support of the Office, serving as the permanent secretariat of the Advisory Group;[13]

11. *Notes with appreciation* that some States are already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[14] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/217, and invites other States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

12. *Considers* that it is essential that States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, especially those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

13. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

14. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, and agrees that the Committee should continue to consider the broader perspective of space security and associated matters that would be instrumental in ensuring the safe and responsible conduct of space activities, including ways to promote international, regional and interregional cooperation to that end;

15. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Office in promoting international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space for economic, social and scientific development, in particular for the benefit of developing countries;

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[12] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/72/20), paras. 164 and 165.

[13] See A/AC.105/1138, paras. 205-210.

[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), annex.

16. *Notes with satisfaction* the programme of work undertaken by the Office in 2017 to strengthen international cooperation in the conduct of space activities for peaceful purposes and the use of space science and technology and their applications towards the achievement of the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals, including the workshops and symposiums conducted to build capacity, the assistance provided to developing countries, at their request, in the development of national space policy and legislation in conformity with international space law, and actions implemented to strengthen institutional capacity in space activities;

17. *Requests* the Office to continue to apprise the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee, at their respective sessions held in 2018, of the status of its capacity-building activities;

18. *Recognizes* the capacity-building activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, which provide unique benefits for Member States, in particular developing countries, participating in those activities;[15]

19. *Notes with satisfaction* the activities carried out under the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), and recognizes the significant achievements made and the advisory support provided to 40 Member States within the framework of UN-SPIDER since its establishment in 2006[16] with the valuable contributions of its network of regional support offices, and encourages Member States, on a voluntary basis, to provide the programme with the additional resources necessary to address the increasing demand for support successfully and in a timely manner;

20. *Reiterates* the importance of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[17] in which the value of space-based technology and Earth observation for disaster management and emergency response is recognized, and notes with satisfaction the efforts of the Office and its UN-SPIDER programme towards promoting international cooperation as a way to enhance the use of space-based technologies and related services at the national and local levels in contributing to the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[2]

21. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems with the support of the Office, in its capacity as executive secretariat of the International Committee, towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, and notes with appreciation that the International Committee will hold its twelfth meeting in Kyoto, Japan, from 2 to 7 December 2017;

22. *Notes with appreciation* that the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated with the United Nations, namely, the African regional centres for space science and technology education in the French and English languages, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific, located in China, the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, located in India, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, with campuses located

[15] See A/AC.105/1138, sect. II.
[16] Resolution 61/110.
[17] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

in Brazil and Mexico, and the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Western Asia, located in Jordan, have continued their education programmes in 2017, encourages the regional centres to continue to promote greater participation of women in their education programmes, and agrees that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on their activities;

23. *Emphasizes* that regional and interregional cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to strengthen the peaceful uses of outer space, assist States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] to that end requests relevant regional organizations and their groups of experts to offer the assistance necessary so that countries can carry out the recommendations of regional conferences, and in that regard notes the importance of the equal participation of women in all fields of science and technology;

24. *Recognizes*, in that regard, the important role played by such organizations as the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization and the European Space Agency and by conferences and other mechanisms, such as the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum and the Space Conference of the Americas, in strengthening regional and international cooperation among States;

25. *Welcomes* the adoption of the African Space Policy and Strategy by the African Union Assembly at its twenty-sixth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa in January 2016, and notes that this achievement marks the first step towards the realization of an African outer space programme within the framework of the African Union's Agenda 2063;

26. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including strengthening sustainable spatial data infrastructure at the regional and national levels and building resilience to reduce the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;

27. *Reiterates* the need to promote the benefits of space technology and its applications in the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields, and recognizes that the fundamental significance of space science and technology and their applications for global, regional, national and local sustainable development processes should be promoted in the formulation of policies and programmes of action and their implementation, including through efforts towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits and in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

28. *Encourages* Member States, to that end, to promote the inclusion in those conferences, summits and processes of the relevance of space science and technology applications and the use of space-derived geospatial data, with the involvement of the Office;

29. *Encourages* the Office to take active part in those conferences, summits and processes and other activities in support of the objectives, as appropriate, and to conduct capacity-building activities, hold lectures and participate in academic and research activities to foster international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space;

30. *Urges* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), under the leadership of the Office, to continue to examine how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to the 2030 Agenda for

Sustainable Development, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate, as appropriate, in UN-Space coordination efforts;

31. *Encourages* the Office to continue to conduct capacity-building and outreach activities associated with space security and transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, as appropriate, and within the context of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities;

32. *Encourages* the Office to continue exploring existing avenues and new opportunities to increase its capability to meet the growing demand for support to strengthen the capacity of countries in using space science and technology and their applications and to inform the Committee of those efforts;

33. *Agrees* that the Office should pursue greater engagement with industry and private sector entities to further their support for and contributions to the overall work of the Office;[10]

34. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, institutions, industry and private sector entities and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of the United Nations Programme on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to support the efforts of the Office to secure additional resources to facilitate the full implementation of its programme of work, including, where appropriate, the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the Office in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities, in particular for developing countries;

35. *Decides* that Bahrain, Denmark and Norway shall become members of the Committee;

36. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the European Science Foundation, represented by the European Space Sciences Committee, and the University Space Engineering Consortium-Global;

37. *Encourages* the regional groups to promote active participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies by the States members of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups.

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[10] *See Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/72/20), para. 326.

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Seventy-second session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 52
International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Canada:* draft resolution

Declaration on the fiftieth anniversary of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

The General Assembly,

Adopts the following declaration:

Declaration on the fiftieth anniversary of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies

We, the States Members of the United Nations, in observing the fiftieth anniversary of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[1]

1. Reiterate the importance of the principles contained in General Assembly resolution 1962 (XVIII) of 13 December 1963, entitled "Declaration of Legal Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space";

2. Recall that the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 2222 (XXI) of 19 December 1966, was opened for signature in London, Moscow and Washington, D.C., on 27 January 1967, and entered into force on 10 October 1967;

3. Note that, as at 1 January 2017, 105 States had become parties to the Treaty and an additional 25 States had signed it;

* In its capacity as Chair of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.
[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

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4. Reaffirm the fundamental role played by the Treaty in maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and in furthering the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and understanding;

5. Are convinced that the Treaty and its principles, as reflected in its articles I to XIII, will continue to provide an indispensable framework for the conduct of outer space activities, which continue to hold immense potential to deliver further advancements in human knowledge, to drive socioeconomic progress for all humankind and to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

6. Recognize that the achievements made in space exploration and the development of space science and technology for the benefit of all humankind, and international cooperation initiatives to those ends, have exceeded all expectations existing at the time of the adoption of the Treaty;

7. Acknowledge that there has been a significant rise in the importance to States of space science and technology applications, which enable greater understanding of the universe and of the Earth and contribute to advances in, inter alia, education, health, environmental monitoring, the management of natural resources on Earth, disaster management, meteorological forecasting, climate modelling, the protection of cultural heritage, information technology and satellite navigation and communications, and to the well-being of humanity through economic, social and cultural development;

8. Are deeply convinced that strengthening the long-term sustainability of outer space activities requires efforts at the national, regional, interregional and international levels;

9. Emphasize the constantly evolving and increasingly multifaceted nature of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, with fundamentally complex scientific and technological advancements in the space field and an increasing variety of actors in the space arena, and therefore encourage the building of stronger partnership, cooperation and coordination;

10. Call upon all States parties to the Treaty conducting outer space activities to work under the principles of cooperation and mutual assistance, paying due regard to the corresponding interests of other parties to the Treaty;

11. Are inspired by the prospects that continue to open up before humankind as a result of human activities in outer space;

12. Urge States that have not yet become parties to the Treaty, in particular those States that are members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to consider becoming party to it;

13. Emphasize, in this regard, that the benefits arising from adherence to the Treaty, as part of the legal regime of outer space, are significant for all States, irrespective of the degree of their economic or scientific development, and that being party to the Treaty would enhance the ability of States to become part of international cooperation efforts in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

14. Reiterate the role of the Treaty as the cornerstone of the international legal regime governing outer space activities and that the Treaty manifests the fundamental principles of international space law;

15. Affirm that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, together with its Legal Subcommittee and Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, has a

distinguished historical record in the establishment and further development of the international legal regime governing outer space activities, that under that regime, outer space activities by States, international intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental entities are flourishing and that, as a result, space science and technology and their applications contribute immeasurably to economic growth and improvements in the quality of life around the world;

16. Call upon the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Legal Subcommittee to continue, with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat, to promote the widest adherence to the Treaty, and its application by States, and to foster the progressive development of international space law;

17. Request the Office for Outer Space Affairs to continue fostering capacity-building in space law and policy for the benefit of all countries and to continue providing assistance to developing countries, at their request, in the development of national space policy and legislation, in conformity with international space law.

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General Assembly

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20 September 2017

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Seventy-second session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 52
International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Canada:* draft resolution

Consideration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2453 A (XXIII) of 20 December 1968, 37/90 of 10 December 1982, 54/68 of 6 December 1999 and 59/2 of 20 October 2004,

Recognizing the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50), to be commemorated in 2018, as an opportunity to consider the current status of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and to chart its future contribution to the global governance of outer space activities,[1]

Taking note with satisfaction of the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its subsidiary bodies and the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat towards the implementation of the seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50, including the related objectives and mechanisms, agreed by the Committee at its fifty-ninth session,[2]

Emphasizing the significance of the high-level segment of UNISPACE+50, to be held on 20 and 21 June 2018 during the sixty-first session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which will be open to all States Members of the United Nations and at which concrete deliverables and outcomes are to be concluded for presentation to the General Assembly in the form of a resolution to be considered at its seventy-third session, including on the "Space2030" agenda and its implementation plan for strengthening the contribution of space activities and space

* In its capacity as Chair of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

[1] See A/AC.105/L.297 and A/AC.105/1137.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), para. 296.

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tools to the achievement of the global agendas addressing long-term development concerns of humankind based on the peaceful exploration and use of outer space,[3]

Convinced that UNISPACE+50 offers a unique opportunity for Member States to reflect on more than 50 years of achievement in space exploration and to look towards the future by strengthening the mandates of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its subsidiary bodies and the Office for Outer Space Affairs as unique platforms for international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space,

1. *Decides* to consider in plenary meeting at its seventy-third session an agenda item entitled "Space as a driver of sustainable development" in the context of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50);

2. *Requests* the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to submit a draft resolution on the outcomes of UNISPACE+50 for the consideration of the General Assembly, in plenary meeting, at its seventy-third session;

3. *Decides* that the plenary meeting or meetings shall be held immediately after the Fourth Committee's consideration of the agenda item on international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space;

4. *Endorses* the decisions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space relating to the preparations for UNISPACE+50, including the holding of intersessional consultations from 7 to 11 May 2018, open to all States Members of the United Nations.[4]

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[3] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/72/20), paras. 321-324.

[4] Ibid., paras. 324 and 328.

United Nations A/C.4/72/L.5*

General Assembly

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3 October 2017

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Seventy-second session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 62
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Draft resolution submitted by the Chair

Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/106 of 6 December 2016,

Recalling also all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

Underlining the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008, 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009, 1920 (2010) on 30 April 2010, 1979 (2011) on 27 April 2011, 2044 (2012) on 24 April 2012, 2099 (2013) on 25 April 2013, 2152

* Reissued for technical reasons on 6 October 2017.

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(2014) on 29 April 2014, 2218 (2015) on 28 April 2015, 2285 (2016) on 29 April 2016 and 2351 (2017) on 28 April 2017,

Expressing its satisfaction that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

Also expressing its satisfaction at the holding of nine informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, New York, United States of America, from 7 to 10 November 2010, from 16 to 18 December 2010 and from 21 to 23 January 2011, all on Long Island, New York, from 7 to 9 March 2011 in Mellieha, Malta, from 5 to 7 June 2011 and from 19 to 21 July 2011, both on Long Island, and from 11 to 13 March 2012 in Manhasset, New York, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

Calling upon all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

Welcoming, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2017,[1]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015), 2285 (2016) and 2351 (2017), with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara in this respect;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, noting efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015), 2285 (2016) and 2351 (2017) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/72/23), chap. VIII.

[2] A/72/346.

16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 61
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Algeria, Thailand and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/105 of 6 December 2016,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[1] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made

[1] A/72/66/Rev.1 and A/72/66/Add.1.

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by States and to provide all the facilities necessary to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

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General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 62
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Draft decision submitted by the Chair

Question of Gibraltar

The General Assembly, recalling its decision 71/521 of 6 December 2016:

(a) Urges the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, while listening to the interests and aspirations of Gibraltar that are legitimate under international law, to reach, in the spirit of the Brussels Declaration of 27 November 1984, a definitive solution to the question of Gibraltar, in the light of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and applicable principles, and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) Takes note of the position of Spain on this issue, including its proposal to start new discussions on the basis of the Brussels Declaration, and also takes note of Spain's presentation of a co-sovereignty offer before the Special Political and Decolonization Committee, on 4 October 2016;

(c) Takes note of the position of the United Kingdom on this issue, that is, the commitment never to enter into arrangements under which the people of Gibraltar would pass under the sovereignty of another State against their freely and democratically expressed wishes, nor enter into a process of sovereignty negotiations with which Gibraltar is not content;

(d) Takes note of the desire of the United Kingdom to continue with the trilateral Forum for Dialogue;

(e) Takes note of the position of Spain that the trilateral Forum for Dialogue does not exist any longer and should be replaced with a new mechanism for local cooperation in which the people of the Campo de Gibraltar and Gibraltar are represented;

(f) Encourages the United Kingdom and Spain to engage in a constructive and responsive manner, with all relevant and appropriate parties, in order to find common solutions and make progress on issues of mutual benefit.

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